

The Nominations Committee recommends the following candidates be elected as directors at the 2024 VTRA AGM:

- Re-elect for a 2-year term (2024-26)
 - Annie Brothwell
 - Anne Silver
 - Bonnie Campbell
 - Heather Love
 - Karen Diederichs
 - Sherry Niles
- Elect for a 2-year term (2024-26)
 - D-A Allen

Annie Brothwell (Director & President)

Annie is a Paramedic currently working for BC Ambulance Service, based in Victoria, and the Lead Instructor at the Victoria Campus at the Justice Institute of BC. When she first emigrated to Canada, and prior to becoming a Paramedic, she worked at Sun Life in Vancouver as an Investment Solutions Executive. She was also able to volunteer at the Winter Olympics and Paralympics, carrying out a variety of roles which she thoroughly enjoyed. After moving to Victoria, Annie was able to volunteer with the VTRA which she finds an amazing opportunity to be around people as well as horses and worked with Habitat for Humanity, arranging events for their volunteers. She enjoys all sports, including riding, playing field hockey and tennis on a regular basis as well as skiing and travelling.

Anne Silver (Director)

Anne is a retired clinical pharmacist, working last at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver. She holds a degree in Pharmacy from the University of Toronto. Prior to serving on the VTRA board, Anne served on the Nominating Committee of the Glenlyon Norfolk School Board of Governors and enjoyed contributing as a Judge Coordinator for the GNS Debate Program. She supports and has volunteered at Victoria Hospice. Keen to build community and connection at every opportunity, Anne is deeply committed to promoting healthy living and to breaking down barriers that challenge all people's well-being. Recognizing the essential role that therapeutic riding and equine assisted activity play in the lives of so many, Anne feels privileged to be a part of the VTRA community. She has enjoyed board and committee teamwork and achievement since June, 2018.

Bonnie Campbell (Director)

Raised on family values of hard work, dedication and respect for all people, Bonnie cut her teeth in the business world working under her father, the innovator and legendary grocer, Alex Campbell. Bonnie was hands-on in the stores from a young age learning every aspect of the grocery trade eventually opening new stores and then, returning to head office where she was responsible for Front End Operations, Training and Public Relations. Prior to retiring to raise her children, Bonnie was Vice President of Human Resources responsible for 2600 employees and instrumental in helping Thrifty Foods navigate its most aggressive and dynamic period of growth culminating in the sale of the grocery empire in 2007. Bonnie's business acumen is both sharp and practical. She is a master at the human aspects of business success and her entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to her community continues to underpin her numerous business ventures that are held in partnership with her husband, Frank. As a lifelong lover of horses Bonnie is honoured to be a part of the VTRA and support the important work they do.

Heather Love (Director & Vice-President)

Heather is an Investment Advisor and Portfolio Manager with Odlum Brown Limited. Professionally, she enjoys getting to know her clients to help them solve their financial puzzles in order to meet their

goals. She hopes to bring the same level of enthusiastic problem-solving to the board of the VTRA. A rider since the age of 4, Heather quickly found her family in the equestrian community on Vancouver Island. Throughout both her education and her career, she has maintained riding as an integral part of her life. VTRA stood out as an amazing organization that offers an opportunity to give back to the community in a way that really speaks to her lifelong passion. Heather is honoured to serve on the board with these other highly qualified and experienced board members for this wonderful organization.

Karen Diederichs (Director & Board Secretary)

Karen began volunteering at VTRA in 2018 after a 23-year career in the BC Public Sector. She was drawn to VTRA because its programs have an immediate positive impact on the lives of the people it serves. Working on the Governance & Nominations Committee gave Karen a sound overview of the organization and a desire to help VTRA achieve its future goals. In 2020, she joined the Strategic Planning Committee and was appointed as board secretary. Throughout her career, Karen acquired a broad set of skills including facilitation, strategic planning, project management, business analysis, public speaking, customer relations, administration and technical writing. Karen holds a B.A. (History) degree from the University of Victoria and certificates from Royal Roads University (project management) and McMaster University Centre for Continuing Education (consulting skills). Prior to retiring, Karen attained PMI's Project Management Professional designation.

Sherry Niles (Director)

Sherry works full time as a Speech Language Pathologist for SD#62 Sooke. Sherry obtained a BSc degree in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology from the University of Alberta and then an MA graduate degree in Speech Pathology from Western Washington University. She has worked as an SLP over the last 29 years, working with adults in group homes; preschoolers in Prevention Services (VIHA), Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health, Autism and Neurodevelopmental clinics and private practice; school age children, including young teens, in SD#62 and private practice. Sherry moved to Victoria in 1998 with her family, enjoying all aspects of the lower island whilst raising a daughter and a son. Sherry's professional work has encompassed direct treatment and assessment, creating and implementing training workshops for parents, ECEs, teachers, autism Interventionists, medical professionals and other community partners. In the role of speech language pathologist, Sherry has worked with and collaborated with multidisciplinary teams (OTs, PTs, psychologists, pediatricians).

Dorothy-Ann (D-A) Allan

D-A is an east coaster who moved to Sidney September 2018 for semi-retirement after trailing Stephen's military career for 32 years, living across Canada and Europe. Moving every 2-3 years she put aside a teaching career and embraced volunteering to meet people, give back to the community and use/develop skills. She has held positions on various Boards: sport organizations, PAC, Military Family Resource Centres (Toronto & Belgium), choirs and currently as Secretary for the Peninsula Newcomers Club. D-A completed a Bachelor of Arts (Sociology & Psychology) then a Bachelor of Education (Junior/Senior High-Math/Special Education). During her university summers she was employed with the Nova Scotia Department of Social Services running Day Camps for children with diverse abilities. With this background, she was intrigued with the VTRA program in 2007 when her daughter was riding at Fforestmere Stables. She started volunteering with VTRA January 2019, as a Side Walker, Horse Handler and Assistant Instructor which she enjoys as it allows interaction with our clients (and an "equine cuddle"). She has a keen interest in safe practices, promotion of the programs in the community and maintenance of the facility. It would be an honour to serve the VTRA in this capacity as well.